Unable to Forgive by Kyarorain

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Summary:

Mia encounters Alex by the ruins of Mt. Aleph and Vale and they exchange some last words.

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A fic I wrote a long time back about Mia and Alex, set during the ending of TLA. Decided I might as well put it up. Contains character death.

Camelot owns Golden Sun.

She could scarcely believe it, as she looked upon the ruins where Vale had once stood. Mia shivered and tightly gripped Garet's arm as he was standing next to her.

"Mia?" Garet looked down at her concernedly. "What's up?"

"Nothing," said Mia quickly, loosening her grip and stepping away. "I think I'll go and take a walk, think about things."

"Alright, Mia!" Garet walked away to talk to his family. Mia smiled as she watched everybody around her, thinking about how fortunate Isaac and Garet were. Isaac had almost lost his mother, Garet had almost lost his family, but the Wise One had warned them of the oncoming danger, so they were safe. She decided to go and inspect the ruins closely.

"Where are you going?" asked Ivan curiously, watching her moving away.

"To look at the ruins," answered Mia. "I will be careful though."

"Ok, Mia." Ivan was satisfied. "Don't fall down or anything."

"I won't..." Mia said quietly, walking slowly towards the devastation. She carefully negotiated her way through several shallow ridges in the ground, careful not to stumble. The ground was cracked and yawned hugely in places. She dreamily walked in the direction of the peaks, feeling as if she was floating. Everything seemed so dreamlike, so unreal, but she knew it was real and it hurt.

Out of the corner of her eye, Mia saw a flash of blue. She stopped in her tracks and went rigid, wondering what she had saw. She craned her neck and peered closely. Yes, she had seen something, and Mia slowly began to realise who it was, feeling horrified as realisation struck her.

Alex!" gasped Mia, backing away and stumbling on a rock. She fell backwards and landed on her backside. Wincing, Mia scrambled back up to her feet and brushed dirt off her robes. She wondered why Alex was in a dangerous place like this. Grimly, Mia strode towards the huddled form.

"Alex?" whispered Mia, kneeling next to him and gently turning him over on his back. She did not really want to touch him, but she felt the need to check whether he was dead or alive.

Alex stirred slightly, but the movement was so tiny that it could easily have been missed by the naked eye. His face was pale as death, his half-opened eyes bleak and staring. His clothes were torn and caked with dirt, and a large scratch ran down the side of his face. Mia suspected that he also had internal injuries, since there seemed to be blood in his mouth.

"I would say you deserved this," Mia told him crossly. "I never would have expected you to try and steal Alchemy

and rule the world. How could you, Alex? We all know what your intentions were. The Wise One told us..."

"...Mia?" Alex whispered, his mouth barely moving. He winced as a sudden pain jolted along his spine. There was nothing he could do. He was too weak to save himself, too weak to talk. He was dying and he knew it. He could not save himself from death.

"That's right, it's me Mia." Mia glared at him. "You have a lot of explaining to do, but I suppose you are in no position to be doing it right now, are you?"

"Please help me," begged Alex piteously. "I'm dying... save me, Mia..."

"Why should I?" whispered Mia, shaking her head. She cautiously reached out and touched his face. His skin was cold to the touch, and she automatically jerked her hand back in alarm. He was so cold.

"I am sorry... for... everything," Alex rasped. "Can't you... forgive me... for all I've done... Mia?"

"I don't know," Mia stated. "I know I cannot forgive you for trying to take Alchemy and using us. How do I know that if I heal you right now, you won't try to hurt us? I'm not stupid, Alex, you cannot fool me anymore. You used us all for your petty greed!"

"I..." Alex winced, more pain stabbing through his body. He could feel nothing but pain despite the numbness in his body. He could barely taste the coppery blood which had pooled up in his mouth. It was fortunate he had not managed to choke to death on it. "I... would not... please, trust me..."

"Trust you?" Mia started laughing hysterically. "I can't trust you anymore! I used to trust you, but then you went and betrayed the Mercury Clan, and tried to claim Alchemy all for yourself. And you ask me to trust you... you're all alone in this, Alex. You got yourself into this, why don't you get yourself out?"

"I... cannot..." murmured Alex. "I cannot... do a thing... please... Mia... don't let me die... I do not wish to die... forgive me... please, Mia!"

"Alex..." Mia bit her lip, wondering what to do, then the familiar feeling of anger flooded her again. "No! I will never forgive you! All you care about is yourself, you never give a thought to anybody else! You are a self-centred traitor!"

Mia's harsh words stung Alex. The urge to fall asleep overwhelmed him but he resisted, knowing he would never wake up again. Perhaps he should just go to sleep and it would all be over. All he had wanted was to control nature, yet his dream had been robbed from him. His vision was blurring and he realised tears were building up in his eyes. He blinked rapidly, feeling a warm tear dripping down his cheek, mingling with dry blood.

Mia looked at him in surprise. Alex was actually crying. She realised that he must be desperate to live, but then she told herself he only wanted to live so that he could show off his power or something. She would not aid him, no matter what.

"Mia." Alex gazed up at her, the one girl he had always truly cared about, even when pursuing his dream. He remembered how on the Jupiter Lighthouse, she had seemed so distressed and he had wanted to rush to her, to give her his aid. "I...have... never stopped... caring about you."

"...Really?" Mia looked at him, her mouth dropping open. Her brow furrowed. "You mean that, Alex?"

"I do," said Alex truthfully. "I wanted to... help... at the Jupiter Lighthouse..."

Mia remained silent, gazing at her clenched fists with a brooding expression. She wasn't sure whether she could really believe his words or not.

"I was foolish," admitted Alex. His vision was turning dark. Perhaps his life was coming to its end right now. "I learned too much and now... I wish I had not..."

"I wish you hadn't too," sighed Mia, looking at him sorrowfully. "Now you see what a tragic end for you this is? Dying out here at such a young age... what a pity you had to throw your life away like that."

"I shouldn't have pursued such foolish dreams..." Alex's voice was so faint that she almost didn't hear him speak. He could barely see her face anymore. His vision was dwindling away to a mere pinprick.

Mia leaned forward as she heard his breathing start to become more ragged. The gap between breaths was becoming even longer and she knew he didn't have much time left for this world. "Goodbye," she whispered, squeezing her eyes shut. Even if Alex had done such terrible things, watching him die was still painful.

"Mia..." Alex summoned the last of his strength to speak one more time. "I'll always... love... you..."

Mia opened her eyes and stared at Alex, noticing that his eyes had glazed over. His chest was no longer rising and falling. She swallowed a thick lump in her throat and

reached out to close his eyelids. Tears welled up in her eyes and splashed down her cheeks, landing on the body of the departed Mercury Adept. Great, hulking sobs erupted from her body. She cried for Alex's lost innocence and for the person he had once been. A short time passed as she continued to cry before a shadow fell over her.

"Mia?" A soft voice spoke, rousing her from her mourning. She quickly wiped away her tears, looking up into warm blue eyes. A sad smile played over her face as she looked upon Isaac.

"Isaac." Mia offered a weak smile.

"What happened?" asked Isaac concernedly, his shocked gaze fixing on the lifeless body lying next to Mia.

"Alex is dead," said Mia hopelessly. "He said all kinds of things, about how he was sorry and he even said he loved me, and then he just died... I guess he deserved it... but he used to be my friend once!"

"It's ok, Mia." Isaac reached out with one hand ready to help her up. Mia gratefully took it and pulled herself up, clutching onto Isaac in a frantic embrace. "It's going to be alright now." he promised, wrapping his strong arms around her.

"Thank you, Isaac," Mia said. "Thank you for understanding me."

"Of course I understand. So, do you want to give him a burial?" Isaac asked.

"Yeah." Mia nodded, looking at the body. "I think we should drop him in the chasm. He'll be in the earth then."

Mia stepped over to the body and gripped Alex by his shoulders, straining to bear him up. Isaac helped her by lifting up his legs with little difficulty. They then carefully stepped closer to the edge of the crater and swung him over, releasing him. He plummeted down into the dark depths among the ruins of Vale and Mt. Aleph.

"Farewell, Alex," whispered Mia.

"Goodbye," Isaac softly called down into the dark depths.

"Isaac?"

"Yeah?" Isaac stepped away from the abyss, looking directly at her.

"Where are we going now?" asked Mia. She almost felt hopeless, for she had imagined Vale would lie at the journey's end but it obviously wasn't going to be the case.

"We are going back to Vault," responded Isaac. "I came to get you because it's time to go now."

"Okay, I'm ready." Mia smiled brightly. "Let's go. Onwards to Vault!"

Isaac and Mia skipped over the ruined ground, holding hands as they walked back towards the group, avoiding the pits and cracks in the earth.

'I have all my friends right here,' Mia thought happily. 'We'll always be together, nobody's going to leave. We've all been through so much. I won't forget Alex though, he was one of my closest friends until he disappeared. It is just such a pity that he changed. But if it wasn't for him, perhaps I wouldn't be here now with everybody.'